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SOURCE Izgrev.SHOW COOPERATIVE-FARMING ERRORS

CRITICIZE POOR CONSTRUCTION ON FARM COOPERATIVES --- Sofia, Izgrev, 3 Mar 51

Under the budget of 1950, several billion leva were assigned to construction work on Farm Workers' Cooperatives and almost 2,664 of the planned farm buildings have been completed, leaving 719 which still await completion. These buildings, together with the 3,000 new projects planned for 1951, will substantially improve conditions of Farm Workers' Cooperatives. However, the people's soviets entrusted with planning the work frequently disregard the financial conditions of the particular cooperative and its actual needs. As a result, many cooperatives which should provide their own funds for construction work, have been granted bank credits. As a further result of these policies, many Farm Workers' Cooperatives have been provided with buildings that they did not actually need, and are using them for purposes quite different from those envisaged by the plan.

Thus, for example, the Okoliya People's Soviet in Vratsa has released funds to the Farm Workers' Cooperative in Bistrets for the construction of a barn for 64 head of cattle, whereas the farm owns only 26; and in Michaylovgrad the cooperative has been provided with a large pigpen, while it owned only 11 pigs. The pigpen was subsequently used as a warehouse for fodder. There are numerous examples of such unwarranted construction, causing a diversion of funds which are urgently needed for the strengthening and improving of the newly established cooperatives.

There was also a great deal of fund dissipation. Many farm buildings have been constructed illegally, i.e. outside the plan, consuming materials required for planned construction, while others have utilized more funds than the plans allowed. On the other hand, building costs were increased by the use of material from the outside, instead of using local materials.

A serious mistake of many cooperatives consisted in using their working funds for investments. This harmful practice has been severely prohibited by the Council of Ministers. Another major error is seen in the spending of money from the Indivisible Fund of Farm Workers' Cooperatives without plan or control, and failing to account for it regularly to the Bulgarian Investment Bank. As a result, many farms are short of funds and fail to pay their members for workdays and land rent.

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The construction plans were set up frequently by incompetent persons, who caused the violations of banking and government rules. For instance, the chairman of the Okoliya People's Soviet in Radomir, ordered the construction of a hayloft on top of the barn of the local Farm Workers' Cooperative.

Generally speaking, farm construction lacks the proper technical supervision. Some buildings are so poorly constructed, that they crumble a short time after completion.

The economy campaign now under way should be strictly applied to farm construction projects and every leva allocated to them should be used with greatest effectiveness.

SCORE SLOW PROGRESS OF POULTRY FARMING -- Sofia, Izgrev, 3 Mar 51

The development of poultry farming has not kept pace with the general development of Farm Workers' Cooperatives. According to the directions of the Ministry of Agriculture, every cooperative and state farm should have 300-500 layers and, wherever water permits, the corresponding number of duck and geese. Many farms have been complying with these recommendations, and special poultry farms have been set up in various Okoliyas, but, in general, their number is still inadequate. Whereas more than half of the soil throughout the country is cultivated cooperatively, only 2.5 percent of poultry farming is established on a cooperative basis, and, surprisingly enough, the grain-producing areas of Vratsa, Pleven, Vidin, and others, are the most backward in this regard.

The responsibility for these conditions lies with the Ministry of Agriculture, the Central Cooperative Union, and the Rayon Cooperative Unions. The latter failed to provide the necessary zinc screening. In addition, mass slaughtering of poultry during last fall and winter drastically reduced the number of birds on private and cooperative farms. These shortcomings should have been corrected by now, and before 15 March farmers should have the maximum number of eggs for hatching and good breeding equipment.

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